

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 04936 191632Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HEW-04 OES-07 AID-05 TRSE-00 IO-13  
EB-08 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02  
DOEE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /090 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7988

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DEPT PASS AMBASSADOR EASUM

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EGEN, NI  
SUBJECT: ECONOMIC BILATERAL TALKS--HEALTH

REF: STATE 97502

1. AS BACKGROUND FOR DELEGATION PAPER ON HEALTH ISSUE, EMBASSY  
SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING:  
A. U.S. OBJECTIVE IS TO MAKE NIGERIANS AWARE THAT WE HAVE DONE  
MUCH TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE IN THE NATION AND THAT WE  
INTEND TO CONTINUE THIS EFFORT, ESPECIALLY IN FAMILY HEALTH,  
TRAINING OF HEALTH TECHNICIANS AND ERADICATION OF COMMUNICABLE  
DISEASES.  
B. NIGERIAN OBJECTIVE IS TO ELICIT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR ITS  
BASIC HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM, EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND HEALTH  
STATISTICS PROGRAM, ITS DIAGNOSTIC TECHNIQUES PROGRAM AND THE  
CONSTRUCTION OF FIVE TEACHING HOSPITALS.  
C. ESSENTIAL FACTORS ARE THAT NIGERIA IS AT POINT OF SWITCHING  
EMPHASIS FROM LARGE, NEW HOSPITALS TO ESTABLISHING SMALL BASIC  
HEALTH CENTERS AROUND THE COUNTRY. CARE AND TRAINING PROGRAMS  
MUST BE RESHAPED TO MAKE LATTER APPROACH SUCCEED. STATISTICAL  
AND IAGNOSTIC CAPABILITY IS VERY LIMITED AND TRAINING IN THESE

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CATEGORIES IS ESPECIALLY SOUGHT. SALIENT PROBLEMS INCLUDE HIGH  
PREVALENCE OF DISEASES THAT COULD BE PREVENTED BY BETTER  
NUTRITION AND SANITATION, HIGH MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE, SHORTAGE  
OF NURSES DUE TO POOR PAY AND BENEFITS, MALDISTRIBUTION OF MEDICAL  
PERSONNEL, LACK OF COORDINATION AMONG HEALTH SERVICES, SHORTAGE  
AND GEOGRAPHIC IMBALANCE OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES, INSUFFICIENT  
REVENTATIVE HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION. POPULATION PLANNING IS

STILL A SENSITIVE ISSUE AND SHOULD BE APPROACHED AS PART OF  
OVERALL FAMILY HEALTH COUNSELING.

D. TALKING POINTS. USG AND PRIVATE U.S. INSTITUTIONS HAVE FOR A  
LONG TIME BEEN ACTIVE IN ASSISTING NIGERIA'S HEALTH CARE CAPABILITY  
WITH TECHNICAL, MATERIAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT. WE WOULD LIKE TO  
CONTINUE OUR COOPERATION IN RAISING NIGERIA'S HEALTH STANDARDS.  
ESPECIAL FIELDS OF INTEREST TO US ARE FAMILY HEALTH, TRAINING OF  
TECHNICIANS, DEVELOPMENT OF A STATISTICAL SYSTEM AND REDUCTION  
OF COMMUNICABLE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES. NIGERIA MUST BE SPECIFIC  
IN STATING ITS PRIORITY NEEDS.

2. DR. ABDULKADER BABATUNDE SULAIMEN, THE SOLE HEALTH OFFICIAL OF  
THE FMG DELEGATION, IS DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL HEALTH PLANNING. BORN  
MAY 17, 1938, IN ILORIN, KWARA STATE, HE RECEIVED HIS FIRST DEGREE  
FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN. BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S DEGREES IN  
SCIENCE AND A DOCTORATE OF HEALTH WERE OBTAINED IN LONDON. HE  
ALSO RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE IN FAMILY PLANNING IN LONDON  
IN 1972. AMONG THE POSITIONS HE HAS HELD IN NIGERIA WAS CONSULTANT  
PHYSICIAN IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH IN THE FEDERAL  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH. HE IS A MEMBER OF THE NIGERIAN MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION, BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, THE SOCIETY OF OCCUPATIO-  
NAL HEALTH OF BRITAIN, ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY PHYSICIANS OF  
NIGERIA, AND THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION EXPERT COMMITTEE ON  
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 apr 1978  
**Decapton Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**Subject:** ECONOMIC BILATERAL TALKS--HEALTH  
**TAGS:** EGEN, NI, US, (SULAIMEN, ABDULKADER BABATUNDE)  
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